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THE busiest want ad answerer of the week is the most optimistic person in town.

LAWYER RELATES PLANS OF HUGE PACKERS' MERGER

National Packing Co., Formed To Operate Independent Firms Says Meeker

PROMOTERS RECEIVE STOCK

Admits Packers Had Organization That Met Every Week To Fix Meat Prices

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Details of the plans for a five million dollar merger of the Armour, Swift and Morris interests in 1902, by which the government contends, it was sought to control the meat industry of the country, were revealed today in the trial of the ten Chicago meat packers, before United States District Judge Carpenter.

The contract, which was dated May 31, 1902, was read to the jury and offered in evidence by counsel for the defense. The original agreement was produced in court by Albert H. Veeder, lawyer, who was called by the government as its first witness.

Veeder testified that no plans for the giant merger were abandoned, and that in March, 1903, the National Packing Co. was organized to operate certain independent packing companies, purchased with a view of including them in the big company.

Planned Huge Merger. Under the terms of the agreement the three large packing corporations and their subsidiary companies, together with recently acquired independent companies, were to be merged into one giant concern.

Armour, Swift and Morris to receive bonds and preferred stock of the new company in payment for the value of their tangible property. In addition to this the promoters were to receive \$25,000,000 of the new company's stock for their tangible property and a large block of common stock for their good will, this amount to be fixed by the earnings of the different plants during the first year of the merger.

The promoters planned to borrow \$30,000,000 to finance the giant corporation. The appraised valuation of Armour, Swift and Morris, and their subsidiary companies, was given at \$180,000.

Spends Days on Stand. Veeder was on the witness stand throughout the day, and will continue his testimony tomorrow.

Counsel for packers put their motion in writing, but Judge Carpenter, while reversing his decision to give the government time to reply, indicated that he would deny the motion.

Veeder, at the beginning of his direct examination, admitted the packers had an organization which met every Tuesday afternoon in a building on the same floor with his law office, and that his son, Henry Veeder, acted as secretary in 1900, 1901 and 1902. He said he never attended any of the meetings. He said books and records of the meeting were kept but he did not know where they were now.

Fix Prices at Meetings. The government contends that it was at these meetings that the price of meat was fixed, and plans discussed for suppression of competition.

Veeder was questioned regarding the Kenwood Co., and the Etna Trading Co., but professed ignorance of their business. The witness said that he heard that at a pool meeting the different companies and the territories allotted to them, were designated by letters.

He said territory "A" was north of the Ohio river and east of the Mississippi. He said Armour was known as "A" among the companies. He did not know the letters used to designate the other members of the alleged pool.

He said the association of packers was dissolved in 1903 and his son, who had acted as secretary, was taken into his law office, as a partner. The witness said he first became attorney for E. F. Swift in 1885, and that on different occasions had served as director for Swift & Co. and several of its subsidiary companies.

Commodore Benedict Sails For Brazil Where Wireless Concession Was Suddenly Declared Revoked



New York, Dec. 26.—Commodore E. C. Benedict and a party of relatives and friends are on board the yacht Alvin, bound for South American waters. While there he will try to learn why the concession under which he has established wireless telegraph stations at several points along the Amazon have been revoked. The ostensible reason for the change was that the

Brazilian government might some day want to engage in the wireless telegraph business. The members of the Benedict party as indicated by numbers are: 1, F. S. Hastings; 2, A. J. Hutter of Para, Brazil; 3, Dr. H. B. Arnold; 4, Miss Mary Bird; 5, Commodore Benedict; 6, Miss Mary Finley; 7, Mrs. Clifford B. Harmond, Commodore Benedict's daughter; 8, L. L. Benedict; 9, Colgate Hoyt.

SINCERITY OF MAYOR HARRISON IS QUESTIONED

United Christian Endeavor Societies Would Have Chicago Executive Set Police Example

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Mayor Carter H. Harrison's sincerity in causing the Civil Service to begin a "law enforcement" crusade against the police force was questioned today in an open letter addressed to him by the United Chicago Christian Endeavor societies.

The letter says it was written with a view of having the Mayor "set an example" for the police force, by way of forbidding the expected new year's revelry. In the petition it is cited if members of the police force follow the example of their superiors in determining how far they shall enforce the law, particularly the letter argues, they watch the city's chief executive in order "to work out the administration's policy."

It quotes state laws and cites city ordinances forbidding the sale of liquor on Sunday, and asks him to order the police to see that on new year's eve—Sunday night—no liquor is sold.

Funeral of Mrs. Hutcherson Held. The funeral service of Mrs. F. Hutcherson of Mound City, who died Saturday evening, was held at 7 o'clock Tuesday evening at the residence. Rev. J. A. Anderson, rector of St. Peter's Episcopal church, officiated.

The body will be taken to Mt. Carmel, Mrs. Hutcherson's former home, Wednesday morning, where interment will be made in the cemetery there.

Knights of Columbus Give Dance. The Knights of Columbus give a dance at their new hall Thursday night. All members and their friends have been invited to attend. This will be the second housewarming the Knights will have given. The first dance was informal. This will be a very swell affair. The new hall and club rooms are now all completely furnished. A fine new piano was the last accession.

REV. RICHESON IS REMEMBERED

Many Christmas Presents Are Sent Him As Accused Pastor Convalesces

Boston, Mass., Dec. 26.—The Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson, the clergyman, accused of the murder of Avis Linnell, was not forgotten by friends yesterday. Flowers decked his cell in the jail, where he is convalescing from his self-inflicted wound and he received a number of Christmas presents. His dinner, however, was of the present order and it was said that it had been understood that some of the clergyman's former parishioners would provide the holiday meal. This afternoon Dr. Lothrop visited the clergyman and reported that his patient was making a good recovery. William A. Morse, also called on his client but refused to comment on the case.

MORE MONEY FOR FUND

Fund Editor Receives \$1.05 More For Support of Children's Home.

The Fund Editor yesterday received \$1.05 more for the support of the Children's Home, making the total \$1,744.48. The lists follow: List—Peter Dean. Five and a Quarter \$.05 List 503—Mrs. Johns. Hilburn Johns25 Lee Johns25 David Johns25 Mrs. David Johns25 Total \$1.00

COURT CENSURES PROSECUTION FOR MAKING CHARGE

Oregon City, Ore., Dec. 26.—At the close of a preliminary hearing of Mason D. Harvey, charged with the murder of members of the family of William Hill at Ardenwald last June, the court discharged the defendant today, exonerating him from all complicity in the murder. The justice severely censured the prosecution for bringing the murder charge against the man on such flimsy evidence as was presented to the court.

ROOSEVELT IS AGAINST PLANS PEACE MEET

Replies To Semi-Official Letter Inviting Him To New York Dinner

TAFT WILL BE SPEAKER

Disagreements Arise Over Function Which Closely Follows Unsuccessful One

New York, Dec. 26.—Close on the heels of one great peace meeting, which was broken up by disturbances opposed to the ratification of President Taft's proposed treaties with England and France, disagreements have arisen over what is being planned as one of the greatest peace dinners the country has ever seen, to be held here Saturday night.

It developed today, according to a member of the committee in charge of the dinner, that former President Roosevelt had replied to a semi-official invitation to attend the function at which President Taft will be one of the principal speakers, with a letter declaring that his sentiments were wholly at variance with those to be expressed at the affair, and censuring as "traitorous" to their principles all those who accepted invitations to the dinner without agreeing to its purposes.

To form a peaceful program the executive committee of the National Society in charge of the dinner, met and discussed the situation. At a meeting of the executive committee last week a resolution was adopted in executive session, authorizing an official invitation to Mr. Roosevelt by the secretary, who was told to send the invitation did not do so in a formal way, but wrote to Roosevelt to learn his views.

DUNLAP IS PRESIDENT

Cairo Sunday School Association Honors New Pastor of Lutheran Church.

Rev. Charles R. Dunlap, pastor of the Lutheran church, was elected president of the Cairo Sunday School Association at the annual meeting held Monday at the Presbyterian church.

T. L. Pulley was elected vice president; James E. Clatts, secretary and Bert Neff treasurer. The executive committee consists of the superintendents of the different Sunday schools belonging to the association.

A Sunday school census of the city is to be taken soon to ascertain how many white children and others there are who do not attend Sunday school. A number of bids were asked from persons desiring to undertake the work. J. M. Collins with the local agency of the Penn Mutual being the lowest bidder was given the appointment.

GEM BREAKS RECORD

Largest Attendance Ever on Christmas Day When Performances All Brought Crows.

The Gem theater is breaking the record for attendance this week. Christmas day was the banner day for attendance since the establishment of the pretty little theater.

The show now on is meeting with the approval of everyone. Today will be the last day the present company will appear here, a new lot of attractions will be put on. "Fun in a School House" played by a company of three girls and four comedians is giving the audiences all the fun they can stand at one entertainment. The other two attractions "The Flying Dutchman" and "The Dainty Girl" is a novelty act which is appreciated and Queen Charrilla the midjet singer and dancer calls for encores.

Mrs. A. M. File, who has been visiting Mrs. Griffith, 314 Eighth street, returns to her home at Anna today.

Alfred G. Vanderbilt And His New Bride Are Making European Auto Tour As Honeymoon Trip



MR. AND MRS. ALFRED G. VANDERBILT.

London, Dec. 26.—Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt and his bride, who was Mrs. Margaret Emerson McKim, have gone to the continent, and their honeymoon will be passed in a leisurely automobile tour. Their wedding was a civil ceremony, performed on Sunday at Reigate, a town in Surrey, twenty miles from London. Their plans were kept secret, but immediately announced was made after the marriage and the relatives of the two in America were notified by cable. Vanderbilt gave his age as thirty-four and said he was "the divorced husband of Elsie Vanderbilt, other-

wise French." The bride explained that she had been divorced from Smith Hollins McKim. She is a daughter of Captain Isaac Emerson, a wealthy drug manufacturer of Baltimore, who was recently divorced and then married again. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt is the second son of Cornelius Vanderbilt. He inherited more than \$50,000,000 from his father, who was displeased with his eldest son and left him but \$500,000 and the income from \$1,000,000. Alfred afterward gave something more than \$5,000,000 to his brother to avoid a will contest.

VATICAN REFUSES BONI'S PETITION

Declines To Annul Famous International Marriage With Anna Gould

Rome, Italy, Dec. 26.—The vatican has declined to grant Count de Castellane an annulment of his marriage with Anna Gould, who is now the Duchess of Talleyrand and Sagan. Countess de Castellane was granted a divorce from her husband and given custody of their three children Nov. 14, 1906. About a year ago Count Boni applied to the vatican for annulment of the marriage.

For several months the congregation of the council has been under advisement. When Mgr. Amette, archbishop of Paris, came to Rome recently to receive his red hat, he gave to the Pope all the details in his possession concerning the case. Count Boni came to Rome on Dec. 20, for the purpose of using all possible influence to obtain his object. In this he was not opposed by the Duchess of Talleyrand. The decision of the congregation of the council, however, which was communicated to him yesterday, rejected his petition for annulment. The ground on which the application was denied, was summarized as follows:

Marriage Indissoluble. "A marriage celebrated and consummated and performed according to the law of the church and until proved to the contrary, as it was in the case of the Castellane-Gould marriage, is indissoluble. There are certain impediments, which if existing before the marriage, can prevent its celebration, or if celebrated in ignorance of them, render the marriage invalid, in which case the church can proclaim the union of the parties never in reality existed. But in the arguments brought

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ARREST BLACK RAPIST AFTER SECOND ATTACK

Sheriff Wehrenberg Gets Negro Near America Yesterday Morning

NAME IS SAMUEL WHITE

Second Negro Girl Gives Fight and Brute Tries To Make Escape

Sheriff Charles E. Wehrenberg of Pulaski county and a posse of sheriffs and citizens yesterday captured Samuel White, the black, who attacked two Grand Chain negroes Saturday night, near America, two miles north of Mound City, after he had attempted an attack on a colored girl of that place.

The second attempted attack was made yesterday morning but the girl, also colored, put up somewhat of a struggle and the black was forced to hasten to the woods.

Word was at once sent to Sheriff Wehrenberg who searched the surrounding country for the negro, getting their man not far from the scene of the second attack.

Hurried to Mound City.

He was at once hurried to Mound City to avoid possible mob violence, where he was taken before a justice of the peace, where he waived preliminary hearing, and was bound over to the circuit court to await the action of the grand jury. He could not give the \$1,000 bail demanded and Sheriff Wehrenberg at once placed him in the county jail, with ample guard.

The two Johnson women from Grand Chain and the negroes at America identified the black as the one who made the attacks.

As he is confined at Mound City Sheriff Wehrenberg does not fear any mob violence and insists he is able to cope with any situation, should it arise.

It is believed that the black boarded the freight train at the spot where the blood hounds lost the trail, and got off at America, and had been in that part of the county since the time of his escape from Grand Chain up to the second attack.

PARTY BREAKS IN JAIL, SHOTS BLACK TO DEATH

Body Is Not Discovered Until About Seven Hours After Christmas Call

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 26.—King Davis, a negro, 28 years old, who last Saturday night shot and killed S. A. Schwab, white, at Fairfield, was taken from the lockup at Brooklyn, a suburb today, and shot to death by a party of men.

Davis, who also is known by the name of Johnson, was dragged to a spot about two hundred yards from the station and shot through the lungs. His body was not discovered until seven hours later. The avenging band, thought to have not exceeded eight or ten in number, forced an entrance. They effected an entrance into the lock-up without attracting the attention of the nearby and went to the Davis cell where they found the negro asleep. Hubert Chase, another black, who was held in the station in the Schwab case, was not molested.

Complete Switch Track.

A new switch track has been completed near Bert Redman farm west of the Illinois Central tracks, south of Cache river. The track will be known as Redman's switch. Redman will build a warehouse near the end of the switch track that will have a capacity of 100 cars. The ground is being cleared for the purpose.